

**Subject:** About your post  
**From:** Andy Kleinman <andyk@andyk.net>  
**Date:** 5/14/19, 11:07 PM  
**To:** mike@michaelkohlhaas.org

Mike,

I'm writing you regarding your post from a few weeks ago where you're publicly attacking me and other people regarding the issue with the homeless encampments and planters in Venice. You put my email address, my name and my company, which from the get go is illegal because you're doing it without my authorization and you're defaming me without evidence. You also did the same with my neighbors.

I've lived in Venice for a long time, and I've been in my current house for about 7 years. I own my home. I live with my 18 month son, my wife and our two dogs. Over the past couple of years the issue with homeless encampments in Venice has gotten bad. I am not insensitive against homeless people and their situation. I do what I can to help people in need and have done it all my life. However what we are talking about here is a little different.

The people who have been camping outside our house for over a year are dealing drugs. We see them transacting constantly in front of house and in the alley. They have tons of stolen goods, bicycles and other things. They go through our trash, many times going through our mail, making a mess before trash pick up and leaving all kinds of stuff all over the sidewalk. They also pee and defecate by our fence. They make tons of noise, which makes our dogs bark, does not let my son sleep, and makes my wife afraid. We have tried to help them, offer them cash, and we have that people from shelters come to talk with them, but they are happy in their tents and doing their business. They are also very aggressive and rude towards us.

For this and many reasons we decided last year that we wanted to move, so we listed our house and sold it. While we were in escrow, the encampment got so bad that the new buyers cancelled the purchase. We have been unable to re-list and sell our house since, because we know we will deal with the same issue.

That is why, with the help of all our neighbors, we donated money to install these planters. We are looking to protect our home and our families.

I don't know you, and for all I know you may think I'm so privileged to own a house and I should go fuck myself, but that would be dumb. I work very hard to afford my life and this house. I immigrated to this country and I have earned everything I own myself. I have lived in Venice, which has always been my favorite part of LA, for many years. We've always had homeless people and crime in Venice, but not to the point of having drug dealers selling drugs outside

my front door, taking shits by my fence, and creating an unsafe environment for my family. I don't think anyone deserves that, and no matter what you are going through in life nothing entitles you to do that.

So I would appreciate if you can take your post down, or at least remove our names and emails from it. I don't disagree that many of these homeless people need a better solution, that they need a city government that will help them, and that we all need to do a better job to figure out how to make Los Angeles a better place, but our planters are not the problem here, and we as neighbors and family people did not do anything wrong here but trying to protect ourselves and each other.

Happy to talk anytime. Thank you,

AndyK

PS: See some photos attached.



